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30th Annual

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U.S. Department of Agriculture
Catalogue



SLAYMAKER & SON

Wyoming, - . Delaware.

Our 1912 Catalog

Contains not only an alphabetical price list of all the best strawberries, raspberries, asparagus and so forth, with prices reduced to the lowest point considering the cost of production and packing, the most careful descriptions of all prominent sorts that a long experience and careful examination can suggest.

This is our 30th annual catalog but we have been active growers and large shippers for forty years and are yet located at the same old place where we began our business, Meadow Brook Farm, near Wyoming, Del.

With the same management and added improvements and better facilities, we again offer our little catalog, asking its careful consideration by our many friends and customers, old and new.

We honestly believe we have to offer plants as good as can be grown anywhere, free from disease and insect pests and packed in the best manner possible.

This is a fine time to begin the strawberry business. The supply of good strawberries has never been equal to the demand and this was more pronounced last year than ever before. We can therefore cheerfully recommend the berry business as one of the surest ways to competence and prosperity. We omit the extravagant pictures as we think them misleading.

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY.

THE unusually dry weather last summer has not materially affected the stock of plants we have to offer. Our large facilities will enable us to serve our patrons more promptly and we believe better than ever before. We grow our own stock and ship as soon after digging as possible.

Our plants are as fine as can be grown anywhere, our prices are right, and our packing the best that 30 years attention can suggest.

BY MAIL—We have made special preparations for our large mail order trade. Our mail package is so light and yet substantial that we can deliver plants right at our customers' door for less than many of our competitors charge for the plants alone, and we don't believe there are any better plants to be obtained in any way. No extra charge for mailing dozen lots, and only 10 cents per 100 extra on large lots.

BY EXPRESS—We have special 20 per cent discount rate with the Adams and other express companies. Our plants are put up as light as possible for express, weighing only 10 to 20 pounds per 1,000 when ready to go. We usually send by express when not otherwise ordered.

BY FREIGHT—We also ship plants to all parts of the country with almost unvarying success, giving entire satisfaction to our many customers. We recommend freight as the cheapest and best way of shipping plants except in small lots or late in the season.

PACKING in the best manner and delivery at office in Wyoming is included in all prices named. Small orders receive every care, all orders and enclosures will be promptly acknowledged, and questions relating to our business carefully answered. We use light and strong packages, put in plenty of moss, and carefully separate and mark each different variety with printed tags.

We do not attempt to grow varieties that we believe to be inferior nor confuse our patrons with too long a list. In fact we trim our list every year, leaving out poor and useless sorts. Please do not order plants not in our list unless you allow us to substitute a similar variety, which we can often do to the advantage of our customer, but will not do unless we can feel that we are giving as good or a better variety.

PAYMENTS MUST BE MADE IN ADVANCE, but orders will be booked and held a reasonable time and sent on receipt of remittance.

C. O. D. orders will be accepted and promptly forwarded, but when made out for a large amount a part of the money should accompany the order, or satisfactory reference given.

OUR CUSTOMERS MAY DEPEND ON GETTING FULL COUNT OF LIVE PLANTS, true to name. Should any fail to get such plants, they may upon prompt notice, have plants replaced or money refunded.

Our Post Office address is now Wyoming, Delaware, instead of Dover. Plants are grown and shipped from our farm near Wyoming, just as we have always done, but mail now reaches us more promptly by Rural delivery from Wyoming. Letters addressed to us at Dover reach us a few hours later.

SUBSTITUTION.—It is impossible for us always to have plants of all the varieties on our list, especially in the latter part of the season, but we can if allowed, often substitute as good or better varieties, and thus save time, which is a very important thing in the plant business. We never put in anything but good and similar sorts; often we can use higher priced and better varieties. So please indicate in your order whether substitution will be allowed in case we are short on any sort in your list.

SLAYMAKER & SON,

A. W. SLAYMAKER, PROPRIETOR,
WYOMING, DEL.

Reference by permission—Cashier First National Bank, Dover, Del.

Landenberg, Pa., April 19.

Gentlemen: My order came to hand yesterday. They were fine plants and arrived in fine condition.

Respectfully,

GEO. M. CHANDLER.

Delaware, N. J., May 8, 1911.

Slaymaker & Son, Dover, Del.—Gentlemen: My plants reached me in fine condition, very fine plants. I regret that I had not sent to you before as I have bought about 10,000 plants and none came like yours.

Very truly yours,

W. S. PERRY.

Shively, Ky.

Slaymaker & Son, Wyoming, Del.—Gentlemen: Plants arrived all O. K. Thanks for the plants you gave me.

Yours truly,

HERMAN KNIPPER.

Slaymaker & Son, Wyoming, Del.—Gentlemen: The order received a week ago came in excellent condition.

Yours truly,

JESSE BROSIUS.

STRAWBERRIES—CULTURAL DIRECTIONS.

Land should be selected that has grown a cultivated crop like tomatoes the preceding year and not grown any berries for at least five years. Plow early and deep, allowing a few days at least between plowing and planting. Soil should be made as fine as possible and freshly worked just ahead of planting. Set plants 18 inches apart each way if for garden, 16 inches apart in rows 3 feet wide if for field culture. One row out of every four must be of perfect flowering varieties. Set the plants with trowel, or any way convenient, so that the roots extend down into the soil, and are all covered, the crowns appearing just above the surface of the ground. Firm very carefully; large beds may be rolled as soon as set out. Cultivate or hoe soon after setting and often enough to keep all weeds down. Let enough runners take root to make the rows 12 inches wide with plants standing 6 inches apart each way; then carefully remove all other runners, and remember that the success of your beds depends largely on the care with which the work is done. Keep up this treatment until stopped by winter, then mulch with straw or manure and you have only to wait for your crop, one that seems to grow more profitable every year.

Strawberries need very rich soil, so it pays to put on plenty of fertilizer or manure. The best time to apply, we think, is in the fall when a fertilizer showing at least 8% potash and 10% phosphoric acid should be spread over the rows.

If there are any weeds that will live thru the winter, they should be taken out promptly, and the mulch should be put on after the application of the fertilizer. Then in the spring just as the blooms begin to appear apply about 100 lbs. nitrate of soda per acre.

If stable manure is available it should be used to mulch the rows, in which case the quantity of fertilizer may be reduced or omitted. Straw, hay or even cut fodder may be used for mulch, only be sure to put on enough to protect the berries from sand and dust and also to prevent the moisture from escaping.

Spraying—Strawberries in large or small beds may be much improved by spraying with commercial lime sulphur solution, just before the blossom opens in the Spring; or at any time in Summer when the rust or any insect pest appears to injure the growing plant. Use one gallon of the solution to 15 or 20 gallons of water.

The use of lime spread over the strawberry rows very early in the Spring before blooms appear has given such good results to growers in the southern part of this State, where the practice is growing every year, that we recommend a trial of a few rows in your bed treated with dry slack lime, limoid or ground limestone spread lightly over the row. Only 15 or 20 bushels is used to the acre. Seems to clean off the foliage and perfect the fruits to a remarkable extent.

STRAWBERRIES—EARLY VARIETIES.

Beder Wood (Per.)—Old standard early berry in the North, larger than most early berries, not as large as Success, but earlier.

Climax (Per.)—Also a large early berry of good habits. Productive, but rather poor quality.

Excelsior (Per.)—First early. Probably the most productive of the very early sorts. Firm and goes to market in fine shape, but not large enough for best market prices except under very best culture with heavy fertilization.

Early Ozark.—An early variety sent out by Mr. Bauer two years ago. We have had a large demand for the plants and have not been able to fruit it except in a small way. It is larger than any other berry of its extra early season. Very fine quality and dark color. As an extra early berry for distant market we certainly think it is to be recommended.

Klondyke (Per.)—Medium early. A growing favorite for market on account of the fine uniform berry ripening very much together and carrying to market in the best shape.

Missionary (Per.)—Somewhat resembles the Klondyke, same medium early season with equally high color and a better size; in fact, as this sort behaves with us, it is to be recommended as the best berry of its class and season. Has all the good market advantages of Klondyke or Superior with larger average size, a very important matter at the season. Very productive.

Michel's Early—The first of the early Strawberries. One of the sweetest and best berries grown, but somewhat lacking in productiveness.

Superior.—An excellent medium early sort. Grown more largely than any other variety for the Bridgeville, Delaware, market where more strawberries are bought and loaded for market, than at any other shipping point in the country.

Success (Per.)—One of our best early berries, first of the large berries to ripen. Strong staminate blossom, large healthy plant, and fine fruit. A favorite market sort.

Ferndale, April 11, 1911.

Slaymaker & Son, Wyoming, Del.—Gentlemen: I was well pleased with the strawberry plants I got from you last spring.

Yours respectfully,

T. G. LARCOM.

MID-SEASON VARIETIES.

Abington (Per.)—Is a better plant maker than Bubach, the blossom is perfect, it sends up more buds on each fruit stalk, and ripens some days earlier.

Bethel.—A new seedling found growing on the farm of Mr. Frank Thomas near Harrington, Delaware. We have now grown this berry on our land and seen it in fruit at Mr. Thomas'. We are more than pleased with its behavior. The berry reminds me of the Marshall when it first came out. Same perfect uniform strawberry, shape and color, without the tendency of the Marshall to run down after one or two pickings. Quality excellent and a fine shipper; season early and long. Begins with the Klondike and Superior and lasts thru the season. Mr. Thomas has kept an account of berries sold in one season from his bed of $\frac{3}{4}$ of an acre at Bethel. His net sales amounted to \$321, sold in the open market at Bridgeville. Growers who saw the berries in market came out to look at them growing and left orders for plants which were afterward dug from the same bed to the number of over 75,000 plants. We intend to plant Bethel for market and advise our friends to do the same. For either market or home use this is in our opinion the most promising new berry of the season.

Bubach (Imp.)—This holds its place in the favor of most strawberry growers—the leading pistillate variety for market. Large, bright berry, coloring very evenly, just the size and color that seem now to be most popular.

Champion (Per.)—(Stevens Late.) A notable market variety that has now been quite generally tried with satisfactory results. Large size, immense productiveness, equalled by very few if any other sorts. Good color. Grows too soft in a wet season.

Corsican (Per.)—This grand berry was first called Big Berry. It is not only a big berry but such a sweet rich fruit as to entitle it to a place in the first rank among the best strawberries for table use. Corsican gains friends every year both for home use and for market. It is of bright rich color and large size, and in high quality—it has few if any equals. Not so heavy a bearer as some other sorts but always to be depended on for a good crop of extra berries.

Chesapeake (Per.)—Takes its name from Chesapeake Bay, near which it was originated. Plants few, rather vigorous, healthy, productive. Leaves about medium in size, erect, rather dark green. Blooms late, ripens in late season, picks easily. Calyx large, attractive green, slightly de-

pressed. Seeds markedly raised, numerous. Fruit large, roundish conic to wedge, surface plump, unbroken by furrows, attractive glossy scarlet. Chesapeake has one fault. Plants are not produced fast enough. It is simply unequalled in nearly every respect. By extra culture we have grown quite a large stock of Chesapeake, fine plants, healthy and true, at very low prices.

Chipman (Per.)—A chance plant found growing in a bed of Bubach near Lincoln, Delaware. This one plant was noticed by Mr. Chipman for the beautiful berries it produced, and from this plant there were enough runners to allow a test the next year which seemed to prove the great merit of the variety. Each year larger beds have been set and everyone delighted with fruit produced. Numerous growers in different parts of our State and especially in the vicinity of Milford have now fruited this berry and we have not been able to find one that does not think it the best all round berry they ever fruited. The plant is a vigorous grower of Bubach type, a strong Staminate blossom. Berry round, uniform, about the size of Bubach, but enough better to make it noticeable among berries of the best sorts. In color, size and quality this berry just suits the market.

Fendall (Imp.)—We have now fruited this sort and are well pleased with its behavior. It is not only among the largest and most productive sorts but it is way up at the top of the list in quality. In every respect it has proven worthy of the highest praise. 100 crates in one shipment to Baltimore caused a sensation in that great market, selling ahead of all others. Season late.

Glen Mary (Per.)—An old standard variety. "Ever since it was first grown it has been immensely popular throughout New England, the Northern Middle West and the Northwest. In this great territory we doubt if there is a more popular and a more largely grown variety today than the Glen Mary.

New York (Per.)—This well known variety holds its place among the reliable market sorts. Its large berries make it a favorite for nearby market^s or shipment in iced cars. One of our largest plants, quite productive, ripening in midseason.

Parsons Beauty (Per.)—Starting from this section this variety has grown every year in favor with growers and shippers. Over thirty earloads of Parsons were shipped in one day from Selbyville, Delaware, netting, as always before, handsome returns. It is a second early sort, leading all others in productiveness. Fine dark red color, holding up in market very well.

Wm. Belt (Per.)—We like the Belt better every year. Some of the large berries grow cock-combed, but most are finely rounded and uniform. Rich high color. Ripens early to mid season, of wonderful beauty in the crate or on the family table. Rivals the Marshall in its high quality, while in size and productiveness it ranks among the best.

LATE VARIETIES.

Aroma (Per.)—One of the oldest sorts now in general use, but still a valuable berry. It has the same season as Gandy, is not quite so large but more productive; with good care it is large enough for market, especially as it is very uniform in size and color.

Gandy—This is the old standard for late strawberries that has stood the test of years and remains as popular as ever before. It is so well known in market as to command a special price in all large cities. Gandy does not set as many berries as most sorts but the large size tends to make up for the smaller number of the berries. Does best on rather low dark land where the water is not too far from the roots. No good on light upland. We have grown a large stock of Gandy as it is one of our largest sellers.

Heritage—A seedling from New Jersey which has now fruited on our grounds; bears out the originator's description quite well, being of Brandywine type of berry, large, late and productive. We think this one of the best late sorts of the best quality.

Joe (Per.)—As in each of the two previous years that we have had it in fruit, Joe gave us the finest quarts of berries, among a great many that we have examined. They are Wm. Belt type which means about the best type of strawberry; large to very large, bright glossy red, unusually firm and more productive than any other late sorts we know of. Like other large late varieties the Joe needs good rich land not liable to dry out too soon. Plant Joe for market and reap a rich harvest of finest fruit that can be grown.

Mascott.—A new late sort of unusually large size and productiveness. Grown for several years around Selbyville in the southern part of this State. Grows in popularity every year and will be extensively planted all over this section the coming spring. Season same as Gandy, lasting longer and usually producing a much better crop of equally good berries. Has been found to do well on land too dry for Gandy. The past dry season seemed just to suit the Mascott and growers who know it best are enthusiastic in its praise.

Taft (Per.)—We think this is the best of Mr. Goldsboro's seedlings. Remarkable for its very large round berries, and for its wonderful uniformity. Quarts of these may be picked almost without variation in size, shape, or coloring. Plants are made very slowly.

Sample (Imp.)—Late, large and productive, ripens its large crop in a few pickings. We like the Sample for its vigorous, healthy plants quite as well as for its firm and attractive fruit.

FALL BEARING VARIETIES.

This class of strawberries shows the remarkable results of intelligent horticultural experiment. By careful selection and crossing, all done in the last few years, we can now offer quite a list of berries that can be depended on to produce good strawberries in late summer continuing until frost. It is best to remove the blooms that show during July and up to Aug. 15, then let them bear through the fall.

Pan American was the first of these Fall bearing sorts, introduced by Mr. Cooper of New York. We have fruited this berry for several years, find it to be a good bearer of fine large rich berries of a quality that is unsurpassed, under high culture, which all these berries require. The Pan American will produce a good crop in the usual strawberry season, and another one in September, and will continue to bear for 3 years or more in the same bed. The only trouble with this variety is that so few plants are produced, the price for plants will always be high.

Autumn.—An imperfect blooming sort that bears fine crops only when planted along with the Pan American or some other staminate fall bearing sort. Runners are produced quite freely.

Americus (Per.) A new seedling fall bearing variety produced by Mr. Rockhill of Iowa after years of experimental work with this object in view. This is a very thrifty grower and makes plants rapidly. It is also a good yielder, and a good runner. The fruit is of medium size, roundish conical in shape, fine red in color, and deliciously sweet and rich in quality. It is firm in texture and bears handling well.

Superb (Per.) Mr. Cooper thinks this the best fall bearing sort yet produced. Bears good round red berries and plenty of strong healthy plants. We find this variety bears better if not allowed to make too many runners. Let six or eight plants grow and remove all other runners as fast as they grow.

We have also Productive and other varieties of this class on which we can better report another year.

Buffalo, N. Y., March 17.

Slaymaker & Son, Wyoming, Del.—Gentlemen : The plants which you shipped me last year came through in excellent condition and went through the summer season in fine shape

Yours truly,

GEO. C. BEALS.

GENERAL LIST OF STRAWBERRIES.

Dozen rates include postage. Add 10 cents per hundred for mailing.

	12	100	1000		12	100	1000
Abington (Per.) . . .	\$ 20	\$ 40	\$ 3 00	Heritage (Per.) . . .	20	40	3 00
Americus	1 00	8 00		Improved Bubach (Imp.)	25	40	2 50
Arnout (Per.)	20	40	2 50	Jim Dumas (Per.) . . .	25	40	3 00
Aroma (Per.)	20	40	2 50	Joe (Per.)	25	40	3 00
Autumn (Imp.)	25	50		Klondyke (Per.)	20	35	2 50
Barrimore	35	50	4 00	Lady Thompson (Per.)	15	40	2 50
Beder Wood (Per.) . .	20	40	3 00	Marshall (Per.)	20	50	4 00
Bethel	25	50	5 00	Monroe (Per.)	40	75	
Brandywine (Per.) . .	20	40	2 50	Michel's Early (Per.) .	15	30	2 00
Bubach (Imp.)	20	40	3 00	Missionary (Per.) . . .	15	40	2 50
Cardinal (Imp.)	25	40	3 00	Myer (Imp.)	20	30	3 00
Champion Per.) (Stevens	25	40	2 50	Nick Ohmer (Per.) . . .	15	40	3 00
Chesapeake (Per.) . .	25	50	3 50	New York	15	40	3 00
Chipman (Per.)	25	40	2 50	Norwood (Per.)	40	75	7 00
Climax (Per.)	20	30	2 50	Parsons Beauty (Per.)	20	40	2 50
Corsican (Per.)	20	40	3 00	Productive	50	4 00	
Crescent (Imp.)	15	25	2 00	Pan American (Per.) . .	1 00	5 00	
Crimson Cluster (Per.)	20	30	2 50	Sample (Imp.)	15	40	2 50
Early Ozark	25	50	4 00	Sharpless (Per.)	25	40	3 00
Excelsior (Per.)	15	25	2 50	Superior (Per.)	25	30	2 50
Fairfield (Per.)	20	50	3 00	St. Louis	15	25	2 50
Fendall (Imp.)	20	30	2 50	Superb	50	4 00	
Gandy (Per.)	20	40	2 50	Success (Per.)	15	40	2 50
Gill (Per.)	25	50	4 00	Tennessee (Per.) . . .	15	40	2 50
Glen Mary (Per.) . . .	20	40	3 00	Uncle Jim (Per.) . . .	30	50	3 00
Goree (Per.)	25	40	3 00	Warfield (Imp.)	15	25	2 50
Harverland (Imp.) . .	20	40	3 00	Wm. Belt (Per.) . . .	25	40	3 00
Helen Gould (Per.) . .	25	50	4 00	3 W (Per.)	20	30	3 00

We have tested and can specially recommend those varieties printed in bold type. Those marked Imp. are imperfect in blossom and must have a perfect plant set near them; every fourth row will do.

OUR PLANTS ARE ALL DUG FROM YOUNG BEDS.

BLACKBERRIES.

Kenoyer.—\$1.50 per 100.

Rathbun Best Early Blackberry.—50 cents per dozen ; \$1.00 per 100.

Ward.—\$1.50 per 100 ; \$10.00 per 1,000.

Lucretia Dewberry.—Very largely grown for market all over the country. Price \$1.00 per 100 ; \$10.00 per 1,000.

RASPBERRIES.

Miller Red.—After growing this variety for years and testing in comparison with other varieties as fast as they are offered for sale, we find this the best raspberry. It excels all others in its early ripening season, a very important point with a raspberry for market. Also in its bright red color and unusual firmness. It is also a large berry, grows on a good healthy stock, bears abundant crops often netting growers one or two hundred dollars an acre. So we can heartily recommend the planting of Miller for market as a sure money crop. We have grown an unusually large stock of plants which we can offer at low price boxed and delivered at Wyoming. Price : \$6.00 per thousand, 75 cents per hundred.

Early King.—\$8.00 per thousand, 75 cents per hundred.

Cuthbert.—\$1.00 per hundred.

Kansas Black Cap.—\$10.00 per thousand, \$1.00 per hundred.

ASPARAGUS.

Giant Argenteuil.—A well known French variety that produces large green stalks. A free strong grower of superior quality. Price for No. 1 plants, \$3.00 per 1,000 ; No. 2, \$2.00 per 1,000.

Palmetto.—Originated in South Carolina, more largely grown in the South than any other sort. We find it closely resembles the Giant Argenteuil, having all its good characteristics. Price—No. 1, 3.00 per 1,000 ; No. 2, \$2.00 per 1,000.

Barr's Mammoth.—A Pennsylvania sort that some growers very much prefer for market. Prices—No. 1, \$3.00 per 1,000 ; No. 2, \$2.00 per 1,000.

On this page please write the names of such persons among your neighbors and friends as you think would be glad to receive our Catalogue.

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Pure Bred Poultry.

While we are not very largely in the poultry business, we use every effort to have highly bred stock, renewing it often from breeders of fancy prize-winning fowls. Our customers can depend on obtaining good, fresh eggs of good stock, at what are popularly called, "farmer's prices."

We take particular pains to have our stock strong and healthy as well as up to standard points and make it a rule to breed only cock birds of the best egg producing strains not related to the hen.

We have had remarkable success in packing and shipping eggs to distant points. Packing in light baskets without extra charge.

White Wyandotte.—Large white docile fowls that lay like the Leghorns without much inclination to sit. Large brown eggs. Make the largest and best broilers when six weeks old. Grow so large that they excel for table or market. We recommend the White Wyandotte as combining in a remarkable way the best qualities of all the best breeds. Our White Wyandotte are crossed with the best Afton farm prize winning stock. 229 egg record. 13 eggs 75 cents, 26 eggs for \$1.35.

The White Wyandotte has much to recommend it to the practical farmer, who will always produce much the largest quantity of poultry and eggs. Its pure white feathers and bright red comb make it an ornament to any farmyard, while its early growth make it desirable for broilers or for market. As a winter layer it is admitted to be among the very best, and as a showbird it always attracts attention. We have tried most of the popular breeds on our own yard, and have come to the conclusion that the White Wyandotte is best of all.

Plymouth Rock.—This is the most popular general purpose fowl. Its good size, hardy growth and good laying qualities make it a practical bird for the farm. Our Barred Rocks are this year crossed with Bradley stock. 13 eggs for 75 cents ; 26 eggs for \$1.35.

Smyrna, Del., April 18.

Slaymaker & Son, Wyoming, Del.—Gentlemen : I have always been very much pleased with eggs received from you. They hatch well and grow off so nice. Yours truly, MRS. J. WRIGHT.

Special Offers

- No. 1.—3 dozen plants, 3 good standard sorts, our selection, mailed free for 35 cts.
- No. 2.—200 plants of 3 good sorts, our selection, by mail prepaid for \$1.00.
- No. 3.—1 dozen each of 6 best new sorts—Superb, Bethel, St. Louis, Jim Demas, Missionary, Productive,—mailed free for \$2.00.
- No. 4.—25 Fendall, 25 Bethel, 25 Heritage, 25 Wm. Belt—prepaid for \$1.00.
- No. 5.—100 Bethel, 100 Joe, 100 Chipman, 100 Myer, 100 Missionary, 100 Heritage—by express prepaid, \$2.50. Not prepaid, \$2.00.
- No. 6.—We furnish 500 each of these three best varieties, Fendall, Joe and Chipman, for \$5.00.
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Send us your list to price. We may have surplus plants of some varieties that we can offer at lower prices as the season advances.

Long Distance Telephone 703-12, Dover.